

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 1186

By DeBerry J

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Dr. Robert F. Landon for his laudable service to Freed-Hardeman University.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as educational leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Dr. Robert "Bob" Landon, who has diligently and judiciously served Freed-Hardeman University for more than four decades; and

WHEREAS, a distinguished scholar and a gentleman, Bob Landon received his Bachelor of Arts degree from David Lipscomb University in 1955 and he went on to earn a Master of Arts degree in 1956 and an Education Specialist degree in 1959 from George Peabody College; in 1972 he received his Doctor in Education degree from George Peabody College; and

WHEREAS, after teaching for two years at Montgomery Bell Academy, Dr. Landon joined the staff of Freed-Hardeman in 1959 as a faculty member in the Physical Science Department; while there he became acquainted with Ouida Faye Heady, also a new addition to the faculty of Freed-Hardeman who was serving as the Campus Nurse; the couple was joined in marriage a short time later in August of 1961 and their blessed union produced two daughters, Joyce and Elizabeth; and

WHEREAS, as an astute Professor at Freed-Hardeman University, Dr. Landon taught Physics and Pre-Engineering courses and served as Department Chair of the Physical Science Department; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Landon played a vital leadership role in the establishment of the University's Pre-Engineering program, as well as in its continued success; according to Roy

Sharp, "Bob has been one of the very best recruiters this campus has had for the Pre-Engineering program. He has been responsible for that program's success."; and

WHEREAS, an outstanding leader, Dr. Landon also generously donated his talents and singular expertise to the Board of Directors of the Mid-South Youth Camp; in this capacity, he was afforded the great pleasure of working together on fundraising endeavors with his wife; and

WHEREAS, a man of faith and principle, Dr. Landon has also preached at various area congregations and has been described as "an excellent Bible student and preacher"; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Landon is most grateful for the love and companionship he shared with his late wife, Ouida, who passed away in 2003 after a courageous battle with cancer; and

WHEREAS, although Ouida Landon has passed away, her imprint on Freed-Hardeman, her former students, her family, and the Henderson Community remains; and

WHEREAS, through the bonds of holy matrimony, Dr. and Mrs. Landon built together a life of love, faith, and Christian service; and

WHEREAS, the Family and Consumer Sciences building, where Mrs. Landon spent a great deal of her time, was renovated in the summer of 2000, and is soon to be renamed the Thomas-Landon House in honor of the myriad contributions made to Freed-Hardeman University by Dr. and Mrs. Landon and close family friends, Dr. John David Thomas and the late Mrs. Reba Thomas; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Landon epitomizes the spirit and commitment of a true Tennessean through his dedication to his community and the faculty, administration, staff, and students of Freed-Hardeman University; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Dr. Bob Landon for his meritorious service to Freed-Hardeman University; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor Dr. Robert F. Landon for his meritorious service to Freed-Hardeman University and its faculty, administration, staff, and students, commend him on his

life of integrity and commitment to humanity, and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.